Levy of taxes by local bodies on the Central Government buildings.

* 592 *Q.*—Sri T. ANANTHA PAI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Administration be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Central Government have agreed to permit local bodies in the State to levy taxes on buildings belonging to the Central Government; and

(*b*) whether the State Government have been paying similar taxes to the local bodies?

The Hon. Sri S. S. RAMASAMY PADAYACHI :—" (*a*) The Central Government have agreed to pay taxes to local bodies only in respect of their buildings (other than railway buildings) which were taxed from before 1st April 1937 and in the case of Railway Buildings, they have accepted such liability from before 26th January 1950.

" (*b*) Yes, Sir, but there is no restriction with reference to dates as in the case of Central Government properties."

Sri T. ANANTHA PAI :—" May I ask for clarification about the date? The last portion of the answer was not intelligible to me."

The Hon. Sri S. S. RAMASAMY PADAYACHI :—" If the hon. Member wants further information, I shall give details explaining the position. But the question involves an amendment of the Constitution and the undertaking of legislation by the Central Government."

Sri V. R. KRISHNA AYYAR :—" What is the total quantum of taxes paid by the State Government to local bodies? "

The Hon. Sri S. S. RAMASAMY PADAYACHI :—" I want notice."

Sri K. VINAYAKAM :—" What is the amount of tax paid by the State Government for their buildings in the City of Madras to the Corporation of Madras? "

The Hon. Sri S. S. RAMASAMY PADAYACHI :—" A separate question may be put."

Regeneration of forests in Tanjore district.

* 593 *Q.*—Sri S. RAMALINGAM : Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state the amount proposed to be allotted for Tanjore district from the amount given in item 123 at page 124 of the Budget Memorandum for 1954–55 for regeneration and afforestation of forests?

The Hon. Sri M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" Rs. 8,100."

Sbi S. RAMALINGAM :—" தஞ்சாவூர் ஜில்லாவில் காடு வளர்ப்பதற்காக என்னென்ன மரங்கள் வைத்து வளர்க்கிறார்கள் ? "

The Hon. Sri M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" The district to which the hon. Member belongs is endowed with paddy

fields, and there is no great scope for growing forests and there are no natural forests. However, for the Mannargudi range a programme has been drawn up to cultivate dry fuel trees to an extent of about 300 acres.''

SRI S. RAMALINGAM :—" தஞ்சாவூர் ஜில்லாவில் வேதாரண்யம் என்ற காடு ஒன்று இருக்கிறது. இது மிகப் பெரிய காடாக இல்லாவிட்டாலும் புயலினால் பெரிய அளவிற்கு மரங்கள் அதில் சேதம் அடைந்திருக்கின்றன. அங்கிருந்த மான்கள் போன்ற மிருகங்கள் மடிந்து போயின. அந்த மான்களை வளர்ப்பதற்கும், போதிய மரங்களை பாதுகாப்பதற்கும் சர்க்கார் கவனம் செலுத்துவார்களா ? ''

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" The fact is that the forest that is existing there does not justify the name of Vedaranyam. The Government are doing their best to preserve the existing forests and also to extend the forest area to the extent possible. Here again, there is the question of want of adequate rainfall.''

SRI K. R. NALLASIVAM :—" இக் காடுகளில் மூலிகைப் பொருள்கள் விளைவிப்பதன் மூலம் மாகாண சர்க்கார் வருமானத்தை அதிகரிக்க வழி ஏற்படுத்துவார்களா ? ''

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" The Government have been making some trials in some forest areas with cinchona.''

SRI S. C. VIRUPAKSHAYYA :—" May I know from the Hon. Minister whether the area that is brought under afforestation is in proportion to the area that is denuded for wood purposes? ''

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" I think that proportion is sought to be kept up.''

SRI S. DEIVASIGAMANY :—" May I know the species of flora and fauna that are found in the forests of Tanjore? ''

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" I would like to have a separate question.''

Inclusion of Peruvannan community in the list of Backward classes.

* 594 *Q.*—SRI K. P. GOPALAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Religious Endowments and Transport be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government have received any memorandum, dated 14th December 1953, from the President, Peruvannan Joint Association Committee, Cherukunnur, North Malabar, requesting the Government to include them in the list of backward communities; and

(*b*) if so, the action taken thereon?

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN :—" (*a*) No.

" (*b*) Does not arise.''